Matter Information

Matter Name: R3 Notice of Noncompliance (NON) issued to Hazelton Creek Properties, LLC (Hazelton)

HQ/Region Lead: Bethany Fisher(OGC); Cheryl Jamieson (R3) Point of Contact: Geraldine Gardner (WCED); Tony Baney (WCED)

Date of Briefing: February 26, 2019

Brief Overview of Matter (two or three sentences)

Hazelton petitioned the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit (Court) for review of a R3 NON and follow-up letter regarding use of fill material containing PCBs at concentrations above 2ppm. The Court requested briefs from both sides. The Court has not set a new filing deadline.

Action Requested

This is just informational.

Procedural Posture

OGC and DOJ provided OECA with a draft brief that challenges the petition on jurisdictional grounds that a NON is not a final EPA action or rule reviewable under TSCA §19. Update: DOJ is contacting Hazelton counsel to see if Hazelton is willing to jointly move the Court to seek an abeyance while the parties discuss other resolutions.

Summary of Claims and Defenses (with statutory/regulatory citations)

R3 issued a NON asserting that Hazelton may be in violation of TSCA § 6(e) for using PCBs at concentrations above 2 ppm in soil as fill material.

Hazelton asserts that according to EPA's PCB Q&A Manual, PCBs in soil at concentrations less than 25 ppm from an old release may be used as fill.

OSCPP and OPPT are looking into the implications of considering the disposition of PCB- containing materials at concentrations above 2ppm covered by PADEP permits to be disposal or use. This issue would need to be resolved before initiating a formal enforcement action. Note: Disposal of waste containing PCBs at concentrations less than 50ppm would not be regulated.

Discussion of Compliance-related Injunctive Relief Sought (linked to statutory/regulatory citations)

EPA suggested that Hazelton take actions to prevent any future violations of TSCA §6(e).

Discussion of Mitigation-related Injunctive Relief Sought (identifying harm from statutory/regulatory violations)

See above.

Discussion of SEPs (if any) and Penalties Sought

NA

State Position on Matter

Hazelton has a Beneficial Use Permit issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). PADEP's Beneficial Use Permits allow the use of PCB-containing materials that contain PCBs at concentrations above 2 ppm. OSCPP and OPPT are looking into whether the use of PADEP's permits are preempted by TSCA where the use of PCBs above 2ppm is prohibited.

Significant or Precedential Issues

Attorney Client / Ex. 5

Other

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